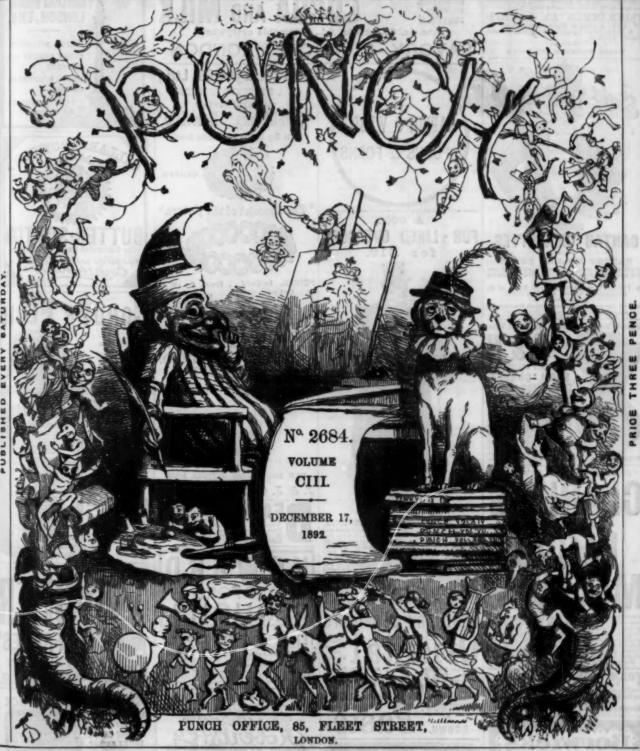
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EL.



### THE WILD WILD EAST.

First Coster. "SAY, BILL, 'OW D'YER LIKE MY NEW KICKSEYS! GOOD FIT, EH!"

Second Coder. "FIT! THEY AIN'T NO FIT. THEY 'RE A HAPER-PLICTICK STROKE!"

### MIXED NOTIONS.

No. I .- BI-METALLISM.

Scene—A Railway-carriage in a suburban morning train to London. There are four Passengers, two of whom are well-informed men, while the third is an inquirer, and the fourth an average man. They travel up to London together every morning by the same train. The two Well-informed Men and the Average Man are City men; the Inquirer is a young Solicitor. They have just finished reading their morning papers, and are now ready to impart or receive knowledge.

Inquirer. They don't seem to be making much of this Monetary

make things better by fixing a ratic between gold and silver? In the first place, you can't do it; they 've got nothing to do with one

make things better by fixing a ratic between gold and silver? In the first place, you can't do it; they 've got nothing to do with one another.

First W. I. M. (trumphantly). Haven't they? What have you got to say, then, about the Indian rupee? That's where the whole of your beautiful system comes to grief. You can't deny that.

Second W. I. M. The Indian rupee has got nothing to do with it. My theory is, that it's all due to the American coinage of silver, and (vayuely), if we do the same as they, why, we shall only make things worse. No, no, my boy, you've got hold of the wrong end of the stick, there. Look at the Bland Bill. Do you want to have that kind of thing in England?

Inquirer. God forbid! By the way, what was the Bland Bill was? Don't you remember it? It provided that a certain amount of silver was to be coined every year, and the Treasury was to hold the surplus until it reached a certain value, and then,—but every schoolboy knows what happened.

Accrage Man. What did happen. as a matter of fact?

Second W. I. M. (scornfully). Why, the market was flooded.

First W. I. M. 1. (scornfully). Why, the market was flooded.

First W. I. M. (hotly). How do you make that out?

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First W. I. M. (hotly). How do you make that out?

First W. I. M. Siddlesticks! I suppose you'll want us to believe next that if we become bi-metallists, corn and everything else will go up in value?

First W. I. M. No, of course it will. We've only got to get Germany and France, and the rest of them to come in, and the thing 's as good as done. What I say is, adopt bi-metallism, and you relieve trade and agriculture, and everything else.

A. M. Do you mean we shall have to pay more for everything?

First W. I. M. No, of course not; I mean that the apy sciation of gold is a calamity which we've got to get rid of.

A. M. I don't see it. If my sovereign buys more than it did years ago, t

England to do it.

Second W. I. M. (decisively). The Bank can't do it. Its Charter won't allow it.

Inquirer. How's that? I never quite understood the Charter. Second W. I. M. By the Charter the Bank has to—

[But at this moment, the train having drawn up at a station, an intruder gets into the carriage. He is severely fround upon, and the conversation, thus checked, is not resumed.

Inquirer (getting out at terminus, to First W. I. M.). I think I've got a pretty clear notion of Bi-metallism now, thanks to you.

First W. I. M. (modestly). Oh, it's quite simple, if you only take the trouble to give your mind to it.

### OUR "MISSING WORD COMPETITION."



"THE WANDERING MINSTREL."

Jem Baggs ("The Wandering Minstrel"). "They may say what they like agin the County Council; I says they're Jolly Good Fellers."



MISPLACED QUOTATIONS.

Young Jones (who, five minutes before the announcement of Dinner, has been introduced to Miss Sprightly, and has been endeavouring to find a filting remark wherewith to open the conversation). "This—BR—I BELIEVE IS CALLED THE—BR—' MAUVAIS QUART D'HEURE'!"

### "THE WANDERING MINSTREL."

(Modern Kensington Version.)

(The London County Council has declined to co-operate with the Kensington Vestry in a representation to the Heme Secretary for more efficient control over itinerant musicians, street-cries, and similar nuisances, on the ground that though the Council has power to make bye-laws for this object, there are no means of enforcing them.]

SCENE—Highly respectable Terrace in Kensington. The exterior of Mr. Tambour's house, Enter Jew Baggs (R.H.) playing the clarinet badly.

Jem B. (log.) Vall now ! that the control of the control of the country is that the control of the contr

Mr. Tambour's house. Enter Jem Bagos (R.H.) playing the clarinst badly.

Jem B. (log.) Vell now! that's vot I calls wery tidy vork! Bob and a tanner for seven doors ain't none so dusty, blow me! Summat better this 'ere than orkin' "All the new and popilar songs of the day for a penny!" Yot miserable vork that vos to be sure! I vos allays a cryin' about the streets, "Here y' are—one 'undered and fifty on 'em pootily bound in a Monster Song Book for a penny!—Here's 'Ram-ta-rar-rospy-ay!"—'Mary, they 'see raised my Screev"—'Sling yer' vo got no oof, John.'—'Snide Sammy courted Sally Brown'—'On the Banks of the yaller Lea.'—'Ye're off to the Home Sec., street shindies to stay, Suput on your toppers, and come with hus, pray!"

So put on your toppers, and come with hus, pray!"

Singing, &c.

"Nay, Westry" said the Council, "your vish is declined, To co-operate (at present) ve can't make up our mind; Our Bye-Laws the Bobbies von't enforce. "Tis a bore! But they lead to the stay of the stay of the stay of the small charge of a penny!" I dessay I might habeen at that there callin' to this werry day, if it han't been for Bosky Bill. I shall never forget Bosky Bill's a sayin' to me—aays he, "I say, Jem Bagos, yy don't yer take to the singin' line?" "Coe I sings vorser than "The Big Bounce," says I. "Yorser!" says he, "only leather and brass. Leather for yer lungs, and brass for yer face, and there yer on? Yeller! There ain't no Bobby in sight, Bill's ye yent a large fortin in silver and go-o-old. Singing, the surface and stay the second of the world on yellow on yet and the sudden of the Home Sec., street shindies to stay, So put on your toppers, and come vith hus, pray!"

So put on your toppers, and come vith hus, pray!"

Nay, Westry," said the Council, "your vish is declined, To co-operate (at present) ve can't make up our mind; To our Bye-Laws the Bobbies von't enforce. This above! But the Public must bear it just a year or two more!"

Shallow and a Monkey on, vouldn't 1ge!" Down to the Derby vith a Shallow on the sudd

villingly give a tanner to git rid of me! And they do! Oh, I know the walley of peace and qvietness, and never moves hon hunder sixpence! (Looking up at the house.) But I know as there's a hartist covey lives'ere. Notice-plate says, "Mister TAMBOUR is house." Valker! I know wot that means. I thinks as how he'll run to a shilling. Anyhow, I'll kick him for a bob.

[He strikes up, taking care to make as much noise as possible.

Tis hof a great Council in London doth dvell; Jest vot they are arter 'tvould floor me to tell. They 're quite a young body—not seving years old— But they 've spent a large fortin in silver and go-o-old. Singing, Ills ve vill cure all on the Sosherlist lay.

### AT A VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT.

Schne—"The Nebuchadnezuer's Head," in the City. Time—The luncheon hour. The interior, which is bright, and tastefully arranged, is crowded with the graminivorous of both sexes. Clerks of a literary turn decour "The Fortnightly" and porridge alternately, or discuss the comparative merits of modern writers. Lady-clerks hunch sumptuously and economically on tea and baked ginger-pudding. Trim Waitresses more about with a sweet but slightly mystic benignity, as conscious of conducting a dietetic mission to the dyspeptic. dietetic mission to the dyspeptic.

A Vegetarian Fiance (scho has met his betrothed by appointment, and is initiating her into the mysteries). I wish you'd take something more than a mustard-and-cress roll, though, Louise—it gives you such a poor idea of the thing. (With honest pride.) You just see me put away this plate of porridge. At the "Young Daniel." where I usually lunch, they give you twice the quantity of single they do here. of stuff they do here.

Louise (admiringly). I'm so glad I've seen you lunch. I shall be able to fancy every day exactly what you are having.

Her Fiance (to assist her imagination). Mind you, I don't always have porridge. Sometimes it's mushroom croquettes, or turnip and onion ris-soles, — whatever's going. Now yesterfor instance, I

e details exactly what he had, and she listens to these Ho moving episodes with the rapt interest of a Desde-

First Literary Clerk. No: but look here, you don't take my point. I'm not running down Swin-NURNE—all I'm arguing is, he couldn't have written some of the things BROWNING did.

Second L. C. course not - when BROWNING had written them nothing against him. them

first L. C. (scarmly). I'm not saying it is. I'm telling you the difference between the two men-now Browning. he makes you think! Second L. C. He i

Third L. C. Nor yet me. Now, 'ERBERT SPENCER, he does make you think, if you like!

First L. C. Now you're getting on to compatible.

First L. C. Now you're getting on to something of the fault I find with Swindurks, is

Second L. C. Hold hard a bit. Have you read him?

Third L. C. Yes, let's ave that first. 'Ave you read'im?

First L. C. (soith dignity). I've read as much of him as I care to.

Second L. C. (aggressicely). What have you read of his? Name it.

First L. C. I've read his Atlantic in Caledonia, for one thing.

Second L. C. (disappointed). Well, you don't deny there's poetry in that, do you?

in that, do you?

First L. C. I don't call it poetry in the sense I call WALT WHIT-MAN poetry—certainly not.

Second L. C. There you touch a wider question—there's no rhyme

in WHITMAN, to begin with.

First L. C. No more there is in MILTON; but I suppose you'll admit he's a poet.

Admit he's a poet.

[And so on, until some of them is quite sure what he is arguing about exactly, though each feels he has got decidedly the best of it.

First Lady Clerk (at adjoining table, to Second L. C.). How excited those young men do get, to be sure. I do like to hear them taking up such intellectual subjects, though. Now, my brothers talk of nothing but horses, and music-halls, and football, and things like that.

Second L. C. (pensively). I expect it's the difference in food that accounts for it. I don't think I could care for a man that ate meat. Are you going to have another muffin, dear? I am.

An Elderly Lady, with short hair and spectacles (to Waitress).

Can you bring me some eggs?

Wastress. Certainly, Madam. How would you like them done

The R. L. (with severity). Certainly not. You will serve them spectably dressed, if you please! Waitress (puzzled). We can give you "Convent eggs" if you

The E. L. I never encourage superstition-peach them.

Enter a Vegetarian Enthusiast, with a Neophyte, to whom he is playing Amphitryon.

playing Amphiryon.

The Veg. Enth. (selecting a table with great care). Always like to be near the stove, and out of the draught. (The prettiest Waitress approaches, and greets him with a sacerdotal sweetness, as one of the Faith, while to the Neophyte—whom she detects, at a glance, as still without the pale—she is severely tolerant.) Now, what are you going to have?

[Passing him the bill of fare.

The Neoph. (inspecting the document helpiessly).

Well, really, er—I think I'd better follow your lead.

your lead.

The Veg. Enth. I generally begin with a plate of porridge myself—clears the palate, y'know.

The Neoph. (un-

Nooph. (unpleasantly conscious that it wouldn't clear his). I'm afraid that, at this time of day at this time of day—
to tell you the truth
(with desperate candour), I never was a
porridge lover.

[The Waitress regards

him sorrougfully.
The Veg. Enth.
Pity! Wholesomest thing you can take. More sustenance to more sustenance to the square inch in a pint of porridge than a leg of mutton. However (tolerantly). if you really won't. I can recommend the

rice and prunes.

The Neoph. (feebly).
I—I'd rather begin with something a little

with something a little more—

Waitress (with a sad for eknowledge that she is carting pearls before a swine). We have "Flageolet Frittors and Cabbage," or "Parsnip Pie with grilled Potatoes"—both very nice.

The Neoph, braving the unknown). I'll have some of this—er—"Cinghalese Stew."

[He awaits the result in trepidation. Customer (behind, dictating his bill). "What have I had?" Let me see. Braised turnip and bread sance, fricassée of carrot and artichoke, tomato omelette, a jam roll, and a bottle of zoedone.

[The Waitress makes out his voucher accordingly, and awards it to him, with a bright smile of approval and encouragement.

The Enth. V. (who has overheard). A most excellent selection! That's a man, Sir, who knows how to live! Ha! here's my porridge. Will you give me some brown sugar with it, please? And—(to the N.)—there's your stew—smells good, eh?

The Neoph. (tasting it, and finding it a cunning compound of curried bananas and chicory). I—I like the smell—excellent indeed!

[He attacks the stew warily.

The Enth. Veg. (disposing of his porridge). There! Now I shall have some lentils and spinach with parsley sauce, and a Welsh rarebit to follow—and I think that will about do me. Will you—oh, you haven't finished your stew yet! By the way, what will you drink? I don't often indulge in champagne in the middle of the day; but it's my birthday—so I think we might venture on a bottle between us, eh?

The Neoph. (in schom the Cinghalese Steve has excited a lively thirst). By all means. I suppose you know the brands here?



" À la Cocotte ? "

The Veg. Enth. Only one brand—non-alcoholic, of course. Manufactured I believe, from—ah—oranges.

The Neoph. Exactly so. After all, I'd just as soon have bottled ale—if they keep it, that is.

The Veg. Enth. Any quantity of it. What shall it be? They 've "Anti-Bass Beer," or "Spruce Stout;" or perhaps you'd like to try their "Pennyroyal Porter?" I'm rather partial to it myself—capital tonic!

The Neoph. I—I've no doubt of it. On second thoughts if you

ospitationnic The Neoph. I.—I've no doubt of it. On second thoughts, if you don't mind, I'd rather have water. (To himself.) It doesn't look

Vegetarian!

The Veg. Enth. (more heartily than ever). Just as you please, my boy. But you don't mean to say you've done!

The Neoph (earnestly). Indeed, I couldn't touch another morsel,

The Neoph (earnestly). Indeed, I couldn't touch another morsel, really!

The Veg. Enth. I thought that stew looked satisfying; that's where it is, you see—a man can come here and get a thoroughly autritious and filling meal for the trifling sum of fourpence—and yet you meet people who tell you Vegetarianism is a mere passing fad! It's a force that's making itself increasingly felt—you must be conscious of that yourself already?

The Neoph. (politely). Y-yes—but it's not at all unpleasant at present—really!

Enter a couple of Red-faced Customers from the country, who seat themselves.

First Redf. C. Well, I dunno how you're feelin'—but I feel as if I could peek a bit.

Second Do. I can do wi' soom stokin' myself. Tidy scort of a place this. 'Ere, Missy!—(to one of the Waitresses, who awaits his commands with angelic patience) you may bring me and my friend a choomp chop a-piece, not too mooch doon, and a sorsedger, wi' two pots o' stout an' bitter—an' lo-ook sharp about it!

[Sensation—the Waitress gives them, gently, but firmly, to understand that these course and carnivorous propensities must be indulged elsewhere; whereupon they depart, rebuked and abashed, as Scene closes.

### OUR BOOKING-OFFICE.

THE Baron, on behand of small Baronites, thanks Mesars. Cassell & Co. for Farry Tales in Other Lands, by Julia Goddard, as they are dear old friends with new faces.

One of the Assistants in the Baronial Office says, that The Coming of Father Christmas is most exquisitely heralded by E. F. Mannino, in the daintiest of books. "Tis published by FREDERICK WARNE & Co. So if you warne't to make a nice present, you know where to go and get it.

If DEAN AND SON are "limited," their stock is unlimited; and,

to go and get it.

If Dean and Son are "limited," their stock is unlimited; and, all things considered as far as possible, the Baron's Chief Retainer opines that the picture-books from the Deanery of Dean and Son are still the best, and, in kind, the most varied for children. "Which nobody can Dean-y!" The Little One's Own Wonderland is a delightful realm, wherein the very little ones can wander with interest through coloured pictures and easy fairy tales. Among the coloured picture series, the Old Mother Hubbard of 1793, with its contrast. Old Mother Hubbard of To-day, is very amusing.

J. S. FRY AND SONS send out through Sell's Advertising Agency samples of their daintiest specialities in bonbonnières. Being issued by a Sell, one fears a take in; but as 'tis all good, the agency of Sell secures a Sale. The chocolates are sure to go down with everyone.

We all know what the sincerest form of fattery is, and certainly our dear old pet. Alice in Wonderland, whose infinite variety time cannot stale, will gracefully acknowledge the intenseness of the compliments conveyed in Olga's Dream, as written by NORLEY CHESTER, illustrated by Messrs. FURNISS and MONTAGU (the illustrations will carry the book), and published by Messrs. Skeffinotom. It would be a preternaturally wise child who could quite grasp some of the jokes and up-to-date allusions. However, the real original Alice (in Wonderland, and Through the Looking-glass) with the great Master's, JOHN TERNIEL'S, illustrations, is still, as Mr. Sam Weller said of the Governor, "paramount."

Light and airy are the Soap Bubble Stories blown by Farmy Barry through her pen-pipe. Wonder is that, in this advertising age, she didn't dedicate them to Pears.

The Baron's Assistant has a word to say about the Diaries for this next year. If you want a useful Diary, the B. A. would recom-

The Baron has recently received two bods not children.

dedicated to Lord Halifax by Lilly. Two prettier names for authors, or rather, to judge of the writers' sex by the sound of the names, for authoresses, could not well be chosen. But authors masculine they are, the pair of them. Mr. W. S. Lilly is to be congratulated on his very taking title, The Great Enigma, and all classes of readers will be glad to be informed that it has nothing whatever to do with the Irian Question. If any reader expects to find the Great Enigma colved by the Lilly who toils and spins, then he must not be surprised if the author says to him in effect, "Davus sum, non (Edipus."

From A Diary of the Salisbury Parliament, by Mr. H. Lucy,

solved by the Liely who toils and spins, then he must not be surprised if the author says to him in effect, "Davus sum, non Eddipus."

From A Diary of the Salisbury Parliament, by Mr. H. Lucr, anyone can quaff or sip, just as his Cairst for Parliamentary knowledge may be feverish or moderate, but healthy. It is thoroughly interesting, most amusing, and really valuable for reference withal. 'Tis written, too, in so impartial a spirit, that it would be difficult to gather from these pages to which political Party the Diarist belongs, but for his exaberant culogy of the wonderful Grand Old Man. Mr. Lucr is the Parliamentary Papts. The sketches are by an Old Parliamentary Hand, yelept Harry Furniss, and assist the reader unfamiliar with the House of Commons to form a pretty accourate idea of the men who are, and of the men who were, and what they wear, and how they wear.

The most interesting part of Janes Parn's latest novel, A Stumble on the Threshold, to Cambridge men or Camford men (for in this story the names are synony-mous), will be the small-beer ohremiole of small College life in their University some thirty years ago. The slang phrases of that remote period are perhaps somewhat confused with those of a more modern time, just as an old Dutch Master will introduce his own native town and the contume of his fellow-countrymen into a picture representing some great Scriptural subject, thus bringing it, so to speak, up to date, and giving us an artistic realisation of what may be concisely termed "the historic present." In the second volume (this novel is complete in two volumes) the sketches of riverlife, including a delightful one of the old look - keeper, are refreshingly breezy. The story, slight in itself, is skilfully worked out; and the only disappointing part of it—that is, at least to the Baron's thinking—is, that the villain of the earlier part of the tale does not turn up again as the real culprit, though he Baron is certain that every reader must expect him to do so, and must feel quite sure that, i



A DEFREE BETTER.—The Degree of Doctor of Music is to be revived at Cambridge. The duties will be to attend ailing Musicians and Composers. When appointed, the Doctor will go out to Monte Carlo, or thereabouts, to see how Sir Arthur Sullivay is getting on. Sir Arthur will, of course, regulate his conduct at the tables by the prescriptions of his Medical Adviser.

Mr. Waggstaff and his Doctor.—He was ordered by his Doctor to walk two miles a day. "Can't do it in London," was the patient's reply; "never walk more than one mile. But," he said, brightening up, "I'll go to Paris, as one mile there is equal to double the distance in England. How's that? I'll tell you. I do half a mile out, half a mile back: one mile; et voild two?"

"LITTLE TICH" AND "COLLINS."—The former, not the Little Tich of Drury Lane Pantomime, but Sir Henry Tichsonws, Bast., has, for absence of mind and body, thus not fulfilling his duties as High Sheriff, been fined by Mr. Justice Collins five hundred pounds quidle pro que—unless he can show some just cause or impediment. "He wants Tich-ing up a bit," thought Mr. Justice, but he didn't

The Baron has recently received two books, not strictly speaking "Christmas Books," though they are, et cels vs sons dire, books published at Christmas-tide, the one practical and parliamentary, the other philosophical and phenomenal; the former dedicated to the latest addition to the School-Board Education Code for the Christmas Right Honourable Arthur Balfour by Lucy, and the latter Holidays.



"SET A THIEF TO CATCH A THIEF!"

Mrs. Brown (a victim of secret social embisions). "Oh, as for food Mrs. Robinson, mer only object in life is to drop all mer Old Friends and know Titled Prople ! Isn't it Loathsoms and Sickening!" Mrs. Jones (soho is communed insearedly by just the same desire). "YES, INDEED, IF IT'S TRUE! BUT WHAT MAKES YOU THINK SHE WANTS ANYTHING SO UPTERLY DESPICABLE AND MEAN?" Mrs. Brown (naively). "BECAUSE SHE WAS SO PRECIOUS HARD ON MES. SMITH FOR TRYING TO KNOW LORD AND LADY SNOOKS!"

### "THE MISSING WORD." (?)

This is "The Maiden All Forlorn," bowed down with burdens searce to be borne, Waiting a blast on Hope's clarion horn, loud as the "Cock that crew in the morn." Bucolic, wheat-crowned, ahe-Micauber seems she, waiting for something to turn

up-somehow.
Poor Agriculture! Care's merciless vulture

has harried her vitals, and furrowed her brow.

All are her friends-so each talker pretendsfrom CHAPLIN the cheery, to WINCHILSEA

wise,
And valorous MUNTE, who the land-question shunts, and "goes the whole hog" for Protection and rise;

With rollicking LowTHER, who's no Mala-growther, but larkily hints that the growther, but larkily hints that the look-out is mournful;
And NETHERSOLE, rustic and most nubibustic,

of law and of logic complacently scornful.

Poor latter-day Ceres! Quidnunes and their queries will hardly restore her her loved long-lost daughter,

(Fair Profits) whom Pluto ("the Foreigner") stole. Vainly landlords and farmers breathe forth fire and slaughter

At Free Trade—that Ciroe on whom they 've no mercy,—and howl down the speeches of those she's enchanted.

HOARE'S wrath fiercely waxes. Reduction of Taxes? Low Rents? More impreve-ments in modes of production? Pooh! SAUNDERS and RILEY must be far

more wily to get him to yield to their Red Rad seduction. He stands midst his ruins (like Marros) mak-

ing of faith in Protection an open con-Tis Duties on Food will alone do us good,

nought else can now cure "the prevailing depression."

The Missing Word! Maiden Forlorn, 'tis a poser you put to the country, the cliques, and the classes, The Landlord, The Farmer, the Labourer!

Say they agree, what response may you hope from "the Masses." Old myths

and new rumours are like the East wind, Maiden, mighty unfilling; Bucolic ideas and crude panaceas won't help you, though with them all Fad-dom is

you, thou thrilling.

The one "Missing Word" may sound wholly absurd to cool sense, but to them 'tis the one thing that 's wanted.

Must tell you in kindness, that only sheer blindness can say of Protection the true Missing Word it is,

Missing Word it is,
Though men, my poor Maiden, with worries
o'erladen, will lead ear to Quackdom's
most arrant absurdities!

### Suggestions for New Musical Publications.

Publications.

A COMPANION to The Stars of Normandy, to be entitled, The North Pole-Star (the words by Cold-Wetterery), to be sung by Charles Very Chiller. If sung at St. James's Hall, admission generally, one shilling. Freeze-seats, nothing.

"The Carminal" is announced, as "Molloy's last hit." We hope not. We trust that it is only Misther James Molloy's latest hit. "Never say die!"

As a companion to "Come Dance the Romaika," will be published, "Come Read the Romeike," set up and composed by the Press Cutting Agency.

RATHER STARTLING. - A Correspondent sends us a cutting from a paper:

thrilling.

Yes, Fads make strange bedfellows, Winchilska tells us, in this far more wise than he's wholly aware of.

But Chaplin-cum-Walsh cannot turn back time's tide. And Punch, who all interests has to take care of,

"Mr. Moody, the Evangelist, who was ger on the Spres, ... preached an able discourse."

She says, "I can read no more to-day.

Mr. Moody, as 'a passenger on the Spres, is too much for my feelings." As Joe said to Pip, "What larks!" Yourstruly, Shocked!



# "THE MISSING WORD." (?)

["The Agricultural Conference unhappily seems to have made up its mind to defy the recognised laws or economic science, instead of endeavouring to adapt their farming methods to them. The first of the two operative resolutions passed yesterday was an undisguised proposal for the re-adoption of Protection."—The Times.]

to ho an Probrem of the name o

### THE MAN WHO WOULD.

### IV .- THE MAN WHO WOULD BE A CRITIC.

St. Babes, as a literary man and critic, always professed a desire to live in a quiet neighbourhood. Therefore, as I approached his house, on the almost inaccessible slopes of Campden Hill, I was amazed to see a large and increasing crowd assembled in the vicinity. Pushing my way through, I saw that St. Barbe's windows were broken, glass was in a weak minority in the panes, and, what was more singular, the breakage seemed to be done from suithin. Objects were flying out into the garden, and those objects were books. I had the curiosity and agility to catch a few as they fell, and to pick others up. They were mostly volumes of Poetry, and, in every case, they bore St. Barbe's name on the fly-leaf, with a flattering manuscript inscription by the author. Some of the authorinames were unknown to me; in others I recognised ladies of title whom I had read about in the Society Journals. Urging my way through a hot fire of octavos, I rang the bell. The maid who opened the door said, "You're not an Interviewor, Sir?"

"Great Heavens, no!" I replied.

"It is harder for your Sir."

"Great Heavens, no!" I replied.
"It is lucky for you, Sir; he's got an air-gun, and winged two Interviewers to-day, and shot one in the hat."
"I am a friend of Mr. Sr. Banks's," I explained, searcely audible amidst the yells of that man of letters.
"He's awful bad to-day, Sir, assaulted a parcels-delivery man, who was too heavy for him."
So speaking, the maid led

heavy for him."
So speaking, the maid led
me to Sr. Barrs's study. He
was now quiet, and only
groaning softly as he reposed
on the sofa; the fragments of furniture and the torn letters which covered the floor, proyed, however, that the crisis had been severe, for a man who likes a quiet neigh-bourhood. I felt his pulse.

injected morphine, and asked him how he did? "Better," said Sr. Barer, feebly. "I've been clearing them out." "Clearing what out?" I

asked.

asked.
"Presentation copies of books, from the authors," he said; and added, "and the deviis of publishers."
At this moment the postman knocked, and the maid brought in some letters with

"Dear Sir,—You will be astonished at receiving a letter from a total stranger; but the sympathy of our tastes, which I detect in all you write, induces me to send you my little work on The Folk Lore of Tavern Signs."

Here Sr. Barne sat down on the hearth, and scattered ashes on his head, in a manner unbecoming an Englishman.

"I don't see what annoys you so," I remarked, "or in this:—

"DEAR ME. ST. BARBE,—You will not remember me, but I met you once at Lady CARRULEA SMITHFIELD'S, and therefore I take the liberty of sending you my little book of verses."

Here he rolled on the floor, and gnawed the castor of a chair. I had heard of things like this in the time of the PLANYAGEREETS, but I never expected to see nowadays such ferocity of demeanour.

"It is signed MARY MUDDLESEX," I said. "She's very pretty, and a Countess, or something of that sort. What's the matter with you?"

"Try the next," he said.

"My Dran Sir,—Being well aware of the interest you take in the fragments of Dionystus Scytobrachion, I have requested my publisher to send you my little work on his Quelle. Bounder, as you are aware"— Here he pitched his clock into the mirror, and groaned audibly. I tried another:—

Now they all expect to be praised for nothing. And the parcels of books they send."
Here I noticed a London Parcels Delivery van, laden with brown paper packages of books. Quickly the maid rushed out, and induced the driver to remember that he was a family man, and he went on his way without

went on his way without calling.

"They come all day long," my poor friend went on, "and all of them are trash, rubbish that they shoot here: \*hoot, ha! ha! ha! and he took down a Winchester rife, and crept stealthily to the window.

an air of anxiety.

St. Barbe tore the envelopes open, "There, and there, and there!" he cried, thrusting them into my hands, while his features bore a stanic expression of hatred and contempt.

As he seemed to wish it, I read his correspondence, while he absently twirled the poker in his hands, and gasshed his teeth.

"What is the matter with you, old man?" I asked. "These notes seem to be very modestly and properly expressed:—

"Dear Sir.—You will be astonished at receiving a letter from a with sympathy."

"I asked, "it here no way of escaping from this persecution?" I asked, with sympathy.

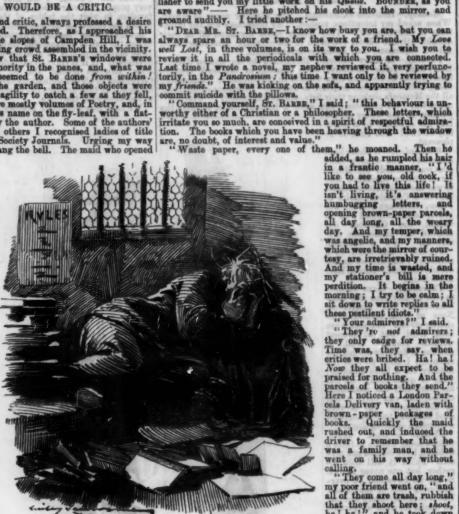
with sympathy.

"None—none! I have written to the Times; I have applied to the Magistrates; I have penned letters which might melt the heart of a stone; I have even been unmannerly, I fear, now and then, for I cannot always dissemble! No!", he cried, "I am doomed,—

'Presentation copies sore Long time he bore'-

Write that on my sepulchre."

Here he broke down, and wept like a child. Poor fellow! he is now under restraint, and I expect soon to hear that we have lost Sr. BARBE, at heart a kind, benevolent man, but sorely treated by authors. Such are the dangers of a critical career, and so wearing are the facilities of the Parcels Post. Others may perish like him, men deserving of a better fate. But to appeal to authors for mercy is vain, I know; far from sympathising with taste and culture in distress, they actually complain that they are harally treated by critics. They little know what they themselves inflict.



" Poor fellow! he is now under restraint."

### DIARY OF A STATESMAN.

("Made in France,")

Monday.—Immense enthusiasm. The Ministry never so strong. When asked my intentions, replied, "My intentions are the intentions of my country." They nearly shook my hand off in their delight. Grand official reception in the evening. Everyone there. All the Diplomatic body offered congratulations.

Tuesday.—Ministry suddenly threatened by an unseen danger. Everything going smoothly, when someone in the back benches interrogated us about an open window in the corridors. Considering the question frivolous, declined to answer. Enormous excitement, all the Members shaking their fists, and gesticulating. "Urgency" asked for. We protested; and, after a heated debate, secured the Day pur et simple by a majority of two! Too close to be pleasant.

Wednesday. - We have been defeated! The window incident was renewed. The Minister of Justice explained that it was the accidental carelessit was the accidental carelessness of a Commissionnaire of
Police. Although the man was
brave, and orippled by a
wound, the Chamber demanded his immediate dismissal. We protested.
"Urgency" was voted by a
majority of 343, and we immediately resigned. Bore to have
to peak up

Thursday, — Have refused to join no less than five combinations. Too dangerous. None of them seemed sufficiently stable. Six men have been tried, but at present without result. Well, if nothing is done by to-morrow norang is done by to-morrow morning, I shall go into the country for a little shooting. Fido is quite ready—he has his coat cut, his moustache curled, and can carry a bag in his mouth. He is very good at tricks to. Alforetty

in his mouth. He is very good at tricks too. Altogether a thorough sporting dogue. Friday. — Back again. Others being unable to form a Cabinet, have formed one myself. Think it will hold together have been approximately. gether, but one never knows. So far we have had an overwhelming vote of confidence. Put it to the Members whether we might de what we pleased with the windows. "Yes," and "Urgency" voted almost simultaneously. No doubt a veritable triumph!

Saturday.

Saturday. — Everytming Saturday. — Everytming went smoothly until the afternoon, when a Deputy wished to know the correct time.

"Where are you stained to know the correct time. "Where are you stained to know the correct time. "In the should have said ten minutes to the hour. Serious Ministerial orisis in consequence. Fearful excitement. A Bill brought in and passed legalising everything that four men and a boy might decide. Ministry forced to protest; turned out in consequence. Base ingratitude; but a time will come! Generally hop in and out of office twice in a fortnight. Quite accustomed to it. Good exercise.

Sunday.—Released from my Ministerial duties. Shall have a day's shooting with Fide in consequence. But I must be back again to-night, because I am sure to be expected to form a New Ministry to-morrow!

"Where are you Staying? I'LL CALL AND SEE YOU."

"Don't! You'll obley Think The Worse of ME WHEN YOU SEE MY

SURGOUNDING! "ON WHEN YOU SEE MY

SURGOUNDING!"

"ON, MY DEAF FELLOW, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE, YOU KNOW!"

"ON, MY DEAF FELLOW, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE, TOU KNOW!"

"ON, MY DEAF FELLOW, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE, TOU KNOW!"

"ON, MY DEAF FELLOW, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE, TOU KNOW!"

themselves, and would have the play of no one to superintend, they, on might be excused, as their labour would be in vain.

And now having reduced the visitors of the tables to an unknown quantity, I may disappear myself.

Spanish Castle, Like of Skyc.

AR EXI.X.

A RUEN OF ONE.—The Times, a few days ago, alluding to the unemployed loafer, said, "it is he who flocks" to Relief Committees, and so forth. How delightful to be able to flock all by yourself! It results the bould Irish soldier who "took six Frenchmen prisoners by surrounding them"?

Query.—Why cannot Mr. Gladstone eat more than two-thirds of a rabbit, whether boiled or curried? Answer.—It does not matter what Mr. Gladstone or anybody else can do, as nobody can eat a rabbit (w) hole.

"SMALL BY DEGREES, AND BEAUTIFULLY LESS."

"SMALL BY DEGREES, AND BEAUTIFULLY LESS."

DEAR MR. PUNCH,—I see that the authorities at Monte Carlo very properly have refused permission to Doctors, their wives and families, to visit the tables of the Casino. I have not yet ascertained the reason for the prohibition, but no doubt it is because the "powers that be" consider Physicians too valuable to the community to run the risk of endangering their lives in the excitement of play. If we may accept this as a basis, we can see how the idea can be developed. If it is right to exclude Doctors, why then, as a kindred class, Lawyers should also be refused admission. Of course Clergymen of all denominations are, even now, conspicuous by their absence. If they are not, the decree of banishment should refer also to the wearers of the cloth.

We have now got rid of Doctors, Lawyers, and Parsons—three of the Professions. To be consistent, we must take the

the Professions. To be consistent, we must take the fourth. This will prevent Musicians from gambling. But if Musicians are tabooed, why not Actors? And if Actors, why not Artists? And if we except Artists. Actors, why not Artists? And if we except Artists, we must join Literature and Science, or there might be jealousy. And now we have excluded Doctors, Lawyers, Parsons, Musicians, Actors, Artists, Authors, Men of Science, and everyone more or less connected with them.

Now we must remember

nected with them.

Now we must remember what is bad for the master what is bad for the master must be equally bad for the man. So if a Dootor is excluded, a Chemist, an Undertaker, and a Grave-digger would also be kept away. A Lawyer would earry with him Judges, Magistrates, Clerks, and Law Stationers. The Clergy would represent everyone connected with a church, from an Archbishop to a Bellringer. Then, if we are to take away the Professions, Commerce must follow—wholesale and retail. In one blow we keep out of the rooms blow we keep out of the rooms nearly the entire community. Still there are the Army, the

Still there are the Army, the Navy, and the Civil Service. But these are all more or less branches of the original class. They, like the Doctors, work for the public good. Without an Army and Navy and a Civil Service, how would the State exist? So they must go. And now we have very little left. We have lost the Doctors, the Clergy, the Lawyers, the Contributors to Fine Arts, the Merchants, the Traders, and the Servants of the Crown. Naturally the lower orders would rally the lower orders would follow the lead of the upper classes, and then there would



KINDLY MEANT.

"Where are you Staying? I'll call and see you."
"Don't! You 'll only think the Worse of me when you see my Surroundings!"

A RUBE OF ONE.—The Times, a few days ago, alluding to the unemployed loafer, said, "it is he who flocks" to Relief Committees, and so forth. How delightful to be able to flock all by yourself! It recalls the bould Irish soldier who "took six Frenchmen prisoners by surrounding them"?

THE GRAMMAR OF ART.—"Art," spell it with a big or little "a," can never come first in any well-educated person's ideas. "I am" must have the place of honour; then "Thou Art!" so apostrophised, comes next.



HOYAL ACADEMICIANS AT MILLBANK, ["We understand that Millbank Prison, the site offered by Sir William Hardownt for the National Gallery of Dritish Art, has been accepted by Mr. Tath."—Merring Papers.]

### FROM PENCIL TO PEN.

(A Story of the Merry Yule-Tide Season.)

Publisher's Sanctum. Publisher and Author discovered in conference

Publisher. And so I thought that, perhaps, with your kind assistance, we might work off some of the blocks that have been left on our hands under the unfortunate circumstances I have just related.

Author. Certainly. Quite easy. You want to get a Christmas Number out of them. All right—give me the subjects, and I will just jot down how they shall be worked in. We will commence—hero and heroine—say, for the moment, Edwin and Angelina.

Pub. (lookat tures). I fancy this is insomewhere in the neigh-bourhood of North Pole, Sailors surrounded white

iceberg.

Auth. Very good.

Ed
arin's father was an Arctic explorer. Write under sketch, "The old man had

For Sail or Return. many a start-ling adven-on. Go

Pub. Here is, seemingly, a quarrel to the death, in the time of CHARLES THE SECOND. Ball-room, with Cavaliers and their Ladies.

Ball-room, with Cavaliers and their Ladies. Central group, a fight with swords. Can we do anything with it?

Auth. Why, certainly. Edwin excites the jealousy of Angelina's cousin Reginald. The latter calls out the former at a fancy-dress dance. Label it—" Captain de Courcy was too impatient to wait until the ball was over, but challenged his rival as the company ware but challenged his rival as the company were on the eve of going down to supper." Drive

Pub. This seems rather a puzzle,—a ship sinking in mid-ocean.

Auth. The very thing. Edwin having lost all his money on the Stock Exchange, goes to Australia for more gold. Label—"The storm was terrific, and the Belgravis had much difficulty in weathering this gale of almost unprecedented violence." Next, please!

Pub. Why here are some sketches of Venice, St. Petersburg, China, and North Wales.

Auth. I can take them en bloc. Edwin and Moseling, before they return home, so upon a

Angelina, before they return home, go upon a honeymoon. Work themall in. Anything else?

accident in the hunting-field. Label it-"His horse swerved, and Edicin was thrown with great violence into the water." Any-

thing eise r
Pub. A man with a dark lantern looking, I
think, at a mile-stone.
Auth. Reginald, before his death in France,
tries to enter burglariously the dwellinghouse of his hated rival. Label—"The misguided wretch paused for a moment while he examined one of the mile-stones." Any-thing further?

Which shall we have, a

Pub. Only two. Which she happy or a wretched ending?
Auth. Either you please.
as the other. What are they? One's as easy

Auth. Either you please. One's as easy as the other. What are they?

Pub. First a man dying in the prairie is threatened by a vulture.

Auth. Evidently Edwin. You see, we have already disposed of the wicked consin. What is the other?

Pub. Oh, the conventional thing—bridal party in a village church. I wish we could use both.

Auth. So, we can. Out down bridal block.

Auth. So we can. Cut down bridal block, and punch out enough of sky in prairie to make room for it. Then give the legend, "And Edicin died happily, for in his vision he saw his love once more as he had hoped to see her. With his last breath he blessed her as she stood beaide him at the altar." That will do, and then I can finish off with, "Who know they may not meet assing." "Who knows they may not meet again?
THE END."
Pub. And now I want to ask your opinion

Pub. And now I want to ask your opinion about some trade advertisements. I want to know if we can work them in?

[Scene closes in upon arrangements of a business-like character.

### THE KISS.

(By a Jubilant Juryman.)

[Kissing the Book is now to be dispensed with as part of a Juryman's duties.]

LIP to lip is pleasant altogether. But there is no charm in lip to leather All the bards who 've sung of osculation, Down from Ovid to song's last sensation, Down from Ovid to song's last sensation, Could not lend romance, or even sense, To the Court's poor labial pretence, Always meaningless, and most unpleasant. Here the past is bettered by the present. Kissing is the due of Love and Beauty, Dull and dismal when 'tis made mere duty. Mere lip-loyalty to Love means little—But to Truth? 'Tis not worth jot or tittle! When from lip to lip in cold formality Passed the grubby cover, in reality Binding kissing made no oath more binding. Therefore, thanks to common sense,—long missing—

missing— That makes obsolete one form of kissing !

### "THERE AND BACK."

First night at Covent Garden of new Opera, Irmengarda, by Chevalier, not Chevalier Buth A man being shot by a company of French soldiers. Is that of any use?

Auth. First-rate fate for the wicked Reginald. Goes to France during the Franco-German War as a Special Correspondent, and is shot as a Prussian spy. Couldn't be better. Anything else?

Pub. A village crowd looking at a representation of "Punch and Judy."

Auth. Obviously a recollection of Edwin's schooldays. Label it—"Sometimes he would join the crowd, watching an exhibition of perambulating puppets." Anything else?

Pub. A man being thrown from his horse into a brook.

Auth. All right! Angeling first falls in love with Edwin when nursing him after an First night at Covent Garden of

By the way, as in Act III. the King enters "a-riding a-riding," this Opera may be distinguished from any of Bach's future works by being called The Horse-Bach Opera. Not to exhaust the punning possibilities in the name of the composer, it may be incidentally noted that, original and fresh as every air in this Opera may be, yet this present work consists entirely of "Bach Numbers." No more on this subject at present.

present.

Last week of Opera by night at Covent Garden, as the Garden is turned into a Raccourse for The Prodigal Daughter's steeple-chase, and Drury Lane is wanted for the Pantomime. Sir DRURIOLANUS has his hands full—likewise his pockets. "So mote it be!"

### TO MY PARTNER.

"Mrss Rkb Sash"—my programme can't even relate Your name, and I know nothing more Of your tastes. Do you talk of high Art—or

the state

Of the floor?

G1

The

Car

Lo

CI

Has Girton or New nham endesvoured to clog With stiffest of science your brain; Or are you prepared to discourse of the fog And the rain? please you? Uganda, perhaps, Or the Cabinet crisis Or would you remark that a great m a n y chaps Never dance? Is I BEEN your idol, with plays that Some say nauseous;

Or are you contented to se On the stage?

You love Paderewski, and would not be false To your faith in Bramus, Gring, Wagner Co.; or you are awfully pleased with this And this Band?

I'll fan you, and near it;
Facts on currents of air, or simoom;
Or simper, and smilingly speak of the heat
Of the room. I'll fan you, and hear if you then will repeat

A Good "SECOND".-A Dutch Oyster.

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# HERS.

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7/6.



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